

Michael F. Easley
Governor



State of North Carolina
Office of the Governor

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GOV. EASLEY REAPPOINTS SAM J. "JIMMY" ERVIN IV TO UTILITIES COMMISSION

RALEIGH – Gov. Mike Easley today submitted for reappointment and reconfirmation by the General Assembly, **Sam J. "Jimmy" Ervin IV** of Morganton to the North Carolina Utilities Commission. He was initially appointed, and confirmed by the General Assembly, to the commission in May 1999.

"Jimmy Ervin has been a dedicated and valuable member of the commission for the past eight years," said Easley. "He has listened with care and concern to the view of consumers and environmentalists while wisely balancing the needs of the regulated utilities for the best interest of all North Carolinians."

He is chairman of the National Association of Regulatory Utilities Commissioners Committee on Electricity and has served as chairman of the association's Subcommittee on Nuclear Issues and Waste Disposal. Prior to joining the commission he was a lawyer with the firm of Byrd, Byrd, Ervin, Whisnant, McMahon & Ervin in Morganton. As a lawyer, he represented Carolina Utilities Customers Association, a consortium of industrial power users.

Ervin received his bachelor's degree from Davidson College and his law degree from Harvard University School of Law. He is the grandson of the late U.S. Sen. Sam Ervin Jr. and the son of the late federal District Court Judge Sam Ervin III.

The Utilities Commission sets rates to be charged by the state's public utilities and investigates consumer complaints regarding utility operations and services. The panel has jurisdiction over public electric, telephone, natural gas, water and sewer companies and household goods carriers. There are seven members on the board, each serving an eight-year term. The governor appoints all members who are subject to confirmation by the General Assembly. Appointments made when the General Assembly is not in session are effective pending confirmation by the state legislature.

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